



1-6-05 IFW

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND
TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Smith, et al. Docket No.: 101.00014
Application No.: 10/750,551 Group Art Unit: 2836
Filing Date: December 31, 2003 Examiner: Not Yet Assigned
Title: Systems and Methods for Immobilization Using Selected Electrodes

Mail Stop Petition
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Commissioner:

PETITION TO MAKE SPECIAL UNDER 37 CFR §1.102

Applicant asks that the present application identified above be granted Special Status for accelerated examination, advanced out of turn for examination as soon as possible, and examined under the Special Examining Procedure described in MPEP 708.02 VIII.

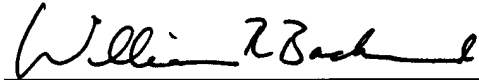
Granting this petition is justified because the invention claimed in the present application represents an advance in technology for **countering terrorism**. Systems and methods of the present invention make possible improved products for use by citizens, police, and military such as offensive and defensive weapons, area protection systems, and remotely controlled weapons (e.g., hand guns, rifles, mines). The improved products are particularly suited to stopping violent acts, acts dangerous to human life, acts intended to coerce civilians, kidnapping, and assassination.

For example, a terrorist who is struck by a weapon according to various aspects of the present invention in most instances will be unable to use the muscles of his or her body for a time that may be controlled by the operator of the weapon. In other words the terrorist will be unable to move to carry out a violent act and unable to communicate to his or her assistants. During the time the terrorist is under the influence of the electrical signals of the weapon, other conventional actions may be taken including disarming and restraining (e.g., handcuffing).

An accelerated prosecution of the present invention may benefit the public in at least two ways. First, the limited monopoly of a granted patent for the present invention will provide an incentive to others to pursue further invention in technologies for countering terrorism. Second, because Applicant is currently manufacturing and selling products and applying a portion of profits to research and development for countering terrorism, additional profits gained by Applicant under a limited monopoly for the present invention may be used by Applicant to continue research and development related to countering terrorism.

Consideration of this petition is requested. Any person considering this petition is invited to call me if it would advance the prosecution of the present invention in any way.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "William R. Bachand", written over a horizontal line.

William R. Bachand

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